

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 05816 071729Z

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 PM-03 L-01 H-01 INR-05

PRS-01 SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 IO-06

IGA-01 /052 W

-----080607Z 105072 /21

R 071526Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2493

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 05816

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, BC, UK

SUBJECT: BOTSWANA'S SECURITY PROBLEM

REFERENCE: STATE 070317

1. EMBASSY OFFICER RAISED REFTEL WITH JOHN SPRAGUE, ASSISTANT HEAD OF FCO CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEPARTMENT. THE TOTAL CURRENT UK MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR BOTSWANA CONSISTS OF THE TRAINING OF ONE PMU OFFICER AT SANDHURST. SPRAGUE POINTED OUT THAT, EXCEPT FOR TRAINING, HMG CANNOT ADMINISTER AID FUNDS FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE NOR CAN IT FINANCE A CREDIT LINE FOR MILITARY SALES. THERE IS NO UK GOVERNMENT MECHANISM WHICH PROVIDES FOR BILATERAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

2. SPRAGUE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HMG IS IN A POSITION TO BE HELPFUL INDIRECTLY, AND IN THE CASE OF BOTSWANA, PLANS TO BE. NON-MILITARY ASSISTANCE, HE EXPLAINED, CAN HAVE AN OFF-SET VALUE, RELEASING IR FROM A RECIPIENT'S BUDGET FOR USE IN ITS OWN MILITARY PROGRAMS. HE REFERRED TO THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED REPORT OF THE UN MISSION TO

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 05816 071729Z

BOTSWANA (IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION 403 IN JANUARY), WHICH RECOMMENDS A MULTILATERAL PROGRAM OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FOR BOTSWANA AMOUNTING TO 25 MILLION AND WHICH IN TURN, IF EFFECTED, WILL HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL OFF-SET IMPACT. THE OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY HERE IS NOW CONSIDERING THE UN REPORT TO SEE HOW IT CAN BEST RESPOND, AND SPRAGUE ADDED, HMG'S ATTITUDE TO BOTSWANA'S

NEEDS IS "VERY SYMPATHETIC".

3. RE PARA THREE REFTTEL: A) BOTSWANA'S SECURITY PROBLEMS ARISE SOLELY FROM THE DETERIORATING SITUATION IN RHODESIA, SPRAGUE SAID. AT THE MOMENT THERE VYE NO OTHER SERIOUS INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL THJWATS TMDVTSWANA'S STABILITY; B) THE FCO DOES NOT HAVE A CLEAR IDEA OF THE EXTENT OF PRC MILITARY AID TO BOTSWANA BUT IS INCLINED TO REGARD THE RECENT PRC DELIVERY AS A "ONE-TIME AFFAIR". BOTSWANA IS NATURALLY EXAMINING ITS OPTIONS BUT IS LIKELY TO LOOK TOWARDS ITS TRADITIONAL SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE; C) THE UK WILL NOT ESTABLISH A BILATERAL MILITARY AID PROGRAM, AS EXPLAINED ABOVE, ALTHOUGH MILITARY TRAINING FOR INDIVIDUALS OF THE PMU MIGHT BE EXPANDED ONCE ODM HAS COMPLETED ITS REVIEW; D) UK HAS NO CURRENT PLANS TO COORDINATE ASSISTANCE WITH OTHER EUROPEAN NATIONS NOR TO RAISE THE QUESTION OF BOTSWANAN SECURITY IN AN EC CONTEXT.

MILLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECURITY, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, PERSONNEL TRAINING, MILITARY PERSONNEL  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 07-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LONDON05816  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770122-0868  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** LONDON  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770478/aaaacqao.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 54c7c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 70317  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2869847  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BOTSWANA'S SECURITY PROBLEM  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MILI, BC, UK, (SPRAGUE, JOHN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/54c7c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009